

Today, I want to recognize not only the service and sacrifices these brave Marines have given to our country, but their unfailing dedication to the betterment of the Omaha community.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. KURT SCHRADER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, April 8, 2011*

Mr. SCHRADER. Mr. Speaker, on Thursday, April 7, 2011, I voted to support final passage of H.R. 1363 in error. I do not support the policies or funding levels contained within this piece of legislation, and request that the record reflect my opposition.

#### DISTINGUISHED HOOSIER TOM ANDERSON

### HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, April 8, 2011*

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to stand before you and my colleagues today to recognize Tom Anderson. Governor Mitch Daniels recently named Tom a Distinguished Hoosier, an annual award given to Indiana residents who have excelled in their chosen fields. Tom was selected to receive this high honor due to his many years of exceptional work with Save the Dunes Council. For his outstanding efforts, Tom will be presented with this award on Saturday, April 9, 2011, at Barker House in Michigan City, Indiana.

Save the Dunes Council was founded in 1952 with the mission to preserve, protect, and restore the Indiana Dunes and all natural resources in Northwest Indiana's Lake Michigan Watershed for an enhanced quality of life. It is one of the most knowledgeable, involved, and valued organizations in Northwest Indiana and beyond. The members of this respected organization continue to devote their time and unrelenting efforts to serve their community through the preservation of the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore. Tom Anderson has demonstrated an enduring dedication to this organization and its ideals and for his lifelong commitment he is worthy of the highest praise.

From 1992 through 2010, Tom acted as the Executive Director of Save the Dunes Council. A major focus of Save the Dunes Council is to protect the Indiana Dunes through advocacy, education, and lobbying. During his career with Save the Dunes Council, Tom lobbied tirelessly for land protection and resources to fulfill the organization's mission of protecting and restoring natural resources within the Lake Michigan Basin. From 1994 through 2010, Tom acted as the Executive Director of the Save the Dunes Conservation Fund. The Fund protects natural resources through land protection, restoration, watershed implementations, and education. Impressively, Tom helped to increase the Fund's budget from less than \$80,000 in 2005 to over \$1 million by 2009. Presently, Tom continues his efforts with Save the Dunes Council as a member of the Save the Dunes Conservation Fund Land

Committee. Tom's undying dedication to conservation has led to him to found Conservation Connections, LLC, a company that strives to implement community-based conservation solutions.

Tom's dedication to the environment, conservation, and his career is exceeded only by his devotion to his amazing family. He is happily married to attorney Joan Wiseman Anderson, and is the proud stepfather of four children who, following his inspirational example, all have become involved with conservation, public service, and resource protection. Tom and Joan have five grandchildren and reside in Michigan City.

Mr. Speaker, Tom Anderson has selflessly dedicated his time and effort to serve his community though his work with Save the Dunes Council. His passionate commitment to improving the quality of life for countless individuals is truly inspirational, and he is deserving of the high honor which has been bestowed upon him. I respectfully ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in commending Tom Anderson on being recognized as a Distinguished Hoosier.

#### PAYING TRIBUTE TO SERGEANT EDDIE RYAN

### HON. MAURICE D. HINCHEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, April 8, 2011*

Mr. HINCHEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Sergeant Edward (Eddie) Ryan, on the occasion of his retirement from the United States Marine Corps. Sergeant Ryan is an American hero. Eddie, as I have come to know him, personifies the core principles of the Marine Corps—honor, integrity and courage in the face of adversity. In fact, Sergeant Ryan has more courage than I can express through words.

Eddie Ryan started thinking about being a Marine when he was twelve years old. After the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001, while he was still a senior in high school, his desire to be a Marine became the driving force in his life. Eddie joined the Marines immediately after graduating high school in June 2002. Within a month, he was undergoing basic training, and by September he had begun his first tour of duty in Iraq. After his first tour ended, Eddie came home and began training to be a Marine sniper. He went on to graduate third in his class and soon became a member of Reaper 6, a team of snipers assigned to the 3rd Battalion, 2nd Marine Division. In March 2005, Eddie began his second deployment to Iraq and, only weeks after arriving in that country, tragedy struck. On April 13, 2005, while positioned on a rooftop in Husaybah, the team came under heavy fire. Sergeant Ryan was struck by two rounds and gravely wounded. His fellow Marines rushed to his side and performed life saving first aid.

When the Ryan family was notified of their son's life threatening injuries, they flew to his side in Germany only to be told that it would be a miracle if Eddie survived, let alone talk or remember his family. Eddie proved them all wrong. He not only enjoys his memories but looks forward to creating new ones. He embraces new challenges, like "running" the Marine Corps Marathon, with anticipation. Angela

Ryan calls her son the "Miracle Marine" and we all understand why. Eddie not only survived, but for the last five years has worked with determination to be the best he could be—a decorated Marine who still understands honor and integrity; a Marine who has faced adversity and come out a winner.

Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to recognize the outstanding achievements of Sergeant Eddie Ryan. His courage and determination are an inspiration to us all. The Marine Corps was fortunate to have him among their ranks and we are fortunate to have him in our community. Semper Fi Sergeant Ryan, Semper Fi.

#### A TRIBUTE TO LESLIE LEWIS

### HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, April 8, 2011*

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay honor and tribute to Leslie Lewis, who has been a resident of Brooklyn since 1982 and has served as the President of the 84th Precinct Community Council for nearly two decades.

Mr. Lewis's current duties are to serve as a liaison between his local NYPD Precinct and the Brooklyn community. Every day, Leslie Lewis works tirelessly to communicate the concerns and complaints of my constituents to the district attorney's office and the police. Without his efforts, the people of my district would lack a critical element in the fight against crime and for a better quality of life.

In addition to his recent work in Brooklyn, Mr. Lewis played a behind the scenes role in one of the most iconic events of the Cold War. In the 1950s and 1960s, drawing on his experience in the exposition business, Leslie Lewis set up the famous U.S.-Soviet cultural exchange programs with the assistance of the U.S. Information Agency. This project included the famous "Kitchen Debate" between Richard Nixon and Nikita Khrushchev inside a model of a "typical" American kitchen.

Leslie Lewis is also responsible for the concept of "Job Power," developed as a way to bring employers and urban minorities together. His plan was pitched to the Department of Labor, and he received the thanks of President Nixon for his ideas. Mr. Lewis's concept evolved into the modern day job fair, a now commonly used method to bring job seekers and employers together.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize Leslie Lewis for his extraordinary accomplishments and his commitment.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to Leslie Lewis.

#### IN HONOR OF RIDGE FIRE COMPANY'S 75TH ANNIVERSARY

### HON. JIM GERLACH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, April 8, 2011*

Mr. GERLACH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Ridge Fire Company on its 75th anniversary of selfless dedication and commitment to its community.